Modernisation of Kolkata and Chennai Airports

81. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been stiff opposition to the joint venture route for modernisation of the Kolkata and Chennai airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to modernise these airports through AAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Though the modalities of implementation of the modernisation plans have yet to be decided in the interim the Airports Authority of India has drawn up plans for construction of a new international departure block with car parking facility etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 225 crores at Kolkata airport. Thereafter, new internat'ional arrival block will be constructed. AAI has already initiated actions to extend runways and to develop plans for construction of a new Domestic Terminal Building & 11 additional bays. Construction of an Integrated Cargo Complex is likely to be completed soon.

At Chennai Airport, AAI has already taken up construction to expand and modify International Terminal Block at an estimated cost of Rs. 23.47 Crores. AAI is also constructing 20 additional parking bays. AAI has further plans for construction of a new domestic terminal building for which State Government of Tamil Nadu has been requested to hand over 583 hectares of land to AAI.

New Airport in Orissa

†82. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand to construct an airport at Jharsuguda in Orissa; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.